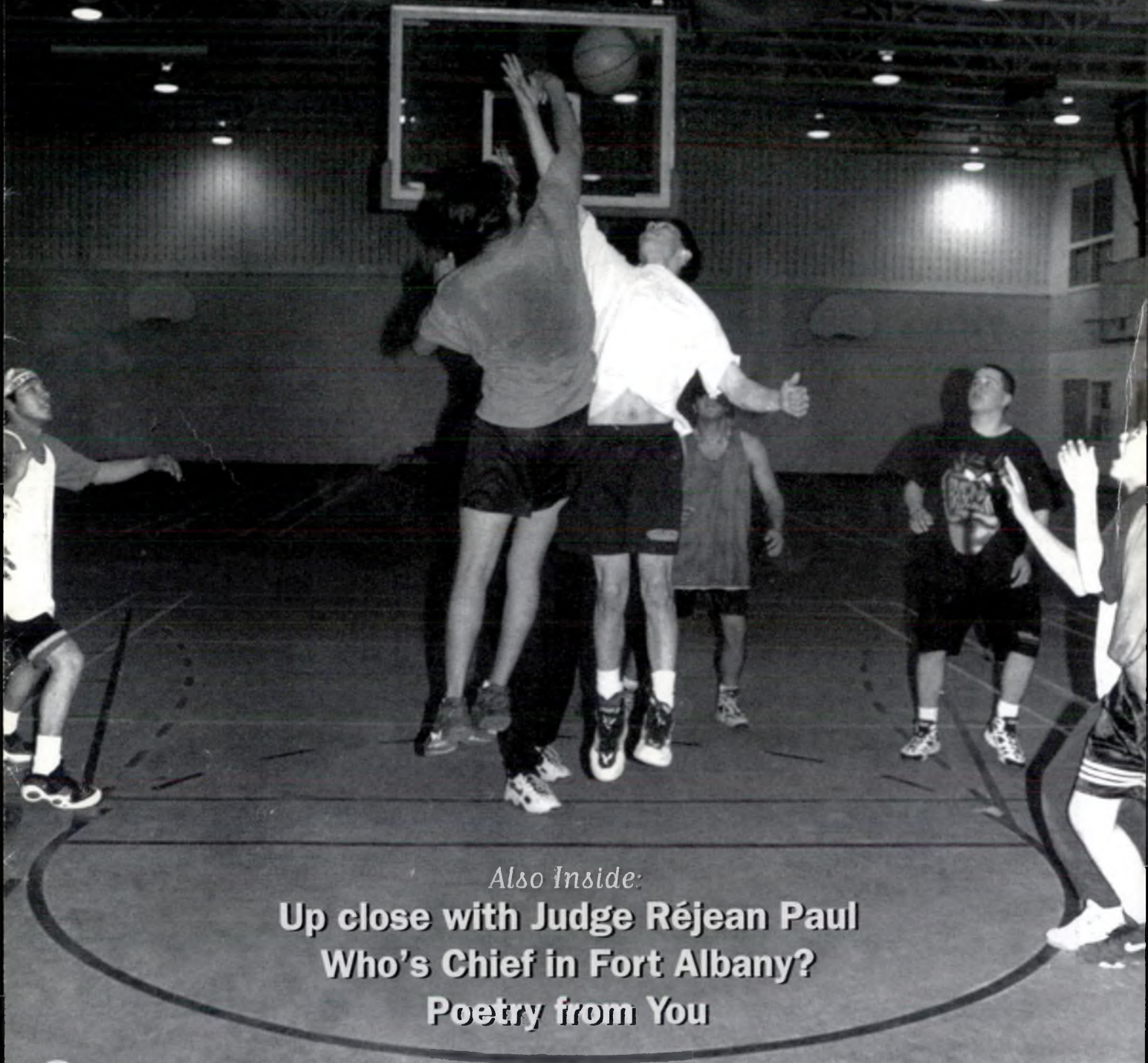


Nation

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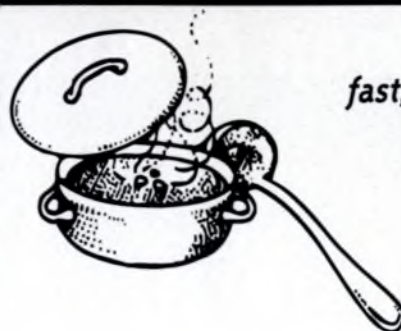


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THINK TWICE ABOUT VACATIONING IN Mexico

With the cold weather around the corner, many of you are in the midst of planning your winter getaway. A significant number of potential vacationers will be enticed to Mexico. The major factor is the low cost. For those considering making one of Mexico's hot-spots such as Cancun or Acapulco your winter playground, please provide me with an opportunity to enlighten you on what you will contribute to.

The ruling party of the Mexican government, which has been in power for 68 years, derives a significant portion of income from the tourist industry. Taxes derived from the tourist industry assist the government in implementing state policies against Mexico's Indigenous population.

Presently, many Native communities are completely surrounded by the military. Most have been cut off from the outside world. Tuberculosis has embraced several Indigenous villages as a result of the people's immune systems being weakened from hunger. Malaria has broken out in the community due to water sent which was contaminated with mosquito larvae. The only food and medicine getting into many villages is trickled in past the military units, by grassroots organizations sympathetic to the plight of the Indigenous Peoples.

In order to evade a military sweep of their communities, entire villages are uprooted at a moment's notice and are forced to flee into the mountains, where they remain for months on end.

As for tourist spots such as Cancun or Acapulco, all Indigenous People are prohibited from working in or around these hot-spots. Unfortunately, you can find many of their handicrafts sold throughout the marketplace or on the streets. Non-Indigenous businessmen travel into the Native communities and buy up all of their handicrafts below cost and resell them to the tourists with markups as high as 500 per cent.

For those with a sense of adventure who are still drawn to Mexico, you may consider travelling into areas populated with Indigenous peoples, San Cristobal De Las Casas, located in the state of Chiapas, is an excellent start. This sleepy little town is considered to be the last stop before you venture into the heartland of Chiapas where 90 per cent of the population is Indigenous. Although there are no beaches, nor luxurious hotels, you will be transported back to where time has stood still. The streets and marketplaces are bustling with Indigenous peoples who have been exiled here since the Zapatista uprising two and a half years ago. The state of Chiapas is also a fully militarized zone, so be prepared for anything!

Ah, decisions, decision! Keep in mind that when you purchase your lost-cost ticket to the government-sponsored resorts of Cancun and Acapulco, you unconsciously are condoning the government's genocidal policies against the Original Peoples of Mexico.

But now it will be a very conscious decision!!

This article is reprinted from the Oct. 11 edition of *The Eastern Door of Kahnawake*.

by Carla Hemlock

OCTOBER 25, 1996

the Nation

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OCT. 25, 1996

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"How's Rez Notes?" I am frequently asked that question. The question before that used to be, "Is there gonna be a Rez Notes this issue?" I always lied, and still do, "It's all in my head." That always keeps the evil Editor at bay for a few hours and it gives me some time to dig up a few items to fill up half a page.

I heard a tragic one while I was back on the rez this past week. There was a religious service in one of the Cree communities a while back. One of the worshippers was being "filled by the holy spirit" and rolling around on the floor when another worshipper took a few steps back and stepped on his family jewels. Let's us all bow our heads now and pray it wasn't a case of: The Lord Giveth and The Lord Taketh Away.

Speaking of our Lord and Saviour, a UFO was doing "loop de loops" over Jerusalem's rush hour traffic in the Holy Land. Israel to the heathens among us. Armageddon approacheth! Repent!

News from a town which shall remain anonymous: The word is that the CSB office is moving regardless of the students' protest.

They were up and ready to commence construction of the sawmill in Waswanipi last week. But someone had very conveniently misplaced the keys for all the heavy equipment. Mr. Kitchen is brutally interrogating all suspects, starting with the

talleyman. Whoever is responsible for the scare please contact the chief and council immediately and write to us. We'll put somebody on it. So to speak.

Watch this space for news. The latest Cree student hang-out is Reggies at Concordia University, downtown. If we are to believe our CSB operatives.

Alec: If you're reading this, please order an espresso machine for the restaurant ASAP!! Believe me, you won't regret it.



Many of you have heard they will rename LG-2 in honour of its "father." Dam Robert Bourassa.

U r g e n t
memo to Cree Tourist boards: It would do your tourist bureaus good if you promote all the sites where they usually see UFO's. We're sure to tap into the X-Files craze. Thank you.

That's all I've been able to come up with faithful readers. C'est la vie.

Ndiamon

the Nation



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CHISASIBI NEEDS PROPER AIRPORT: JUDGE

Chisasibi has been waiting for a proper airport ever since the community relocated from Fort George Island nearly 20 years ago.

The community of 3,000, which is home to the Cree Regional Hospital, is served by an airstrip without lights, no communications facilities, no control tower and no building for travellers to wait in during bad weather or in the event of flight delays.

The airstrip cannot be used at night-time or during the spring thaw, when a large puddle of water covers part of the runway for two to three weeks. In cases of medical emergencies, patients must be driven to the airport in Radisson, 102 kilometres away.

Judge Réjean Paul of the Quebec Superior Court says this situation can't continue and it's time for Chisasibi to finally get a decent airport.

"This problem should be solved, and quickly. I don't care who is responsible for that. The welfare of that community and Crees in general is at stake," said Judge Paul in an interview with *The Nation*.

"You need a building there, first of all. And secondly, you desperately need a proper airstrip," he said.

"The ride between Radisson and Chisasibi in the winter-time is not an easy ride, especially if there is a storm or wind."

Paul is chairman of the Cree-Naskapi Commission, which was set up to monitor implementation of the Cree-Naskapi Act.

The commission has just released its latest report, which lists many areas where governments have failed to live up to their responsibilities to the Crees, including the Chisasibi airport. In the report, the commission offers to mediate efforts to upgrade the Chisasibi

airport. (See page 14 for our complete interview with Judge Paul.)

Proper facilities haven't been built because of years of bickering between Quebec and Ottawa over who should build them. Legally speaking, it's not even clear who owns the land where the airstrip is. The airstrip is surrounded by Category 1A land, but Quebec claims that the airstrip itself never got transferred into Cree ownership under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. The ownership of the airstrip is now being decided by the courts.

Quebec also claims the airstrip doesn't need to be improved because the community already has access to Radisson's airport.

Meanwhile, the federal Transport Department refuses to upgrade the airstrip since it's not clear who owns it.

"Transport Canada wouldn't do anything until the ownership is resolved," said Sylvain Lessard, the department's director of airports in Quebec. "We think the owner should do something."

Lessard acknowledged that Transport Canada is responsible for the safety and security of airports, but said he doesn't think the lack of facilities poses a safety problem.

"There is a road linking it (Chisasibi) to another airport. The distance is not that extreme."

What about the patients who need to be medevac'ed? "That's not related to safety or security because medical procedures are a provincial responsibility," he said.

Lessard did acknowledge that the airport "is not in very good shape," and that an upgrade is needed. "We hope to be in a position next year to do something," he added.

by Alex Roslin

NORTHERN GETS BOOT IN BIG TROUT LAKE

Big Trout Lake, a Cree-Ojibway community in Northern Ontario, has given its Northern Store the boot.

After a 150-year presence in the town of 1,000, Northern was given just a few days to pack its bags and leave after a dispute with the local Band Council.

The dispute started after Big Trout Lake's other store, which is owned by the band, put up advertising signs around the community. One sign was put up on a tree that the Northern Store claimed was on its property.

The Northern Store's manager told the band to take down the sign within two hours or he would issue a fine.

Band members responded with disbelief, saying they had never agreed to give up ownership of this land to Northern or the Hudson's Bay Co. Chief Jacob Ostaman immediately called a meeting of band members, who decided to ask Northern to leave town.

"We asked them to remove themselves from the community because of that attitude displayed by the manager," Ostaman told *The Nation*. "We cannot tolerate that kind of attitude any more."

Northern complied with the order. The company was also told it would have to pay for the cleanup of polluted sites around the store. Ostaman said Northern's fuel tanks have spilled over and polluted water in the lake near the community.

"It's a strong move that has been talked about for many years," said Ostaman. "If you look at the Northern Store, they're just there collecting money from our people and the money goes out of the community," he said.

"We call that economic exploitation. I think that economic exploitation has to stop."

The Northern Store property was granted by Ottawa to the Hudson's Bay Co. in the 1830s, even though a treaty wasn't signed by the Big Trout Lake people until 1929.

"My people believe that's their traditional territory, even though it's not part of the reserve," said the chief. "We've been here many generations and obviously that should tell us its part of our traditional territory."

—Alex Roslin

Just a rumour

Letter to *The Nation*:

Following your article entitled, "Putting the Cree back into the C.S.B.," published in the August 30 issue of *The Nation*, allow me to put certain details right. First of all, the clause concerning replacement by beneficiaries within the meaning of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (clause 5-3.25 of the Teachers' Collective Agreement and clause 7-6.00 of the Support Staff's Collective Agreement) is not an item discussed at the negotiation table. Furthermore, the Northern Quebec teaching Association never intended to question this right provided for in the Collective Agreement for the Native employees of the Cree School Board.

You probably know that rumours spread very quickly in the North... carried by the wind maybe? Be it as it may, a letter dated June 27, 1995 was sent to Mr. Paul Gull to deny these rumours. A copy of this letter is enclosed.

We would appreciate that you check your information sources in the future so as to avoid feeding such rumours. We are always prepared to answer your questions on topics concerning the rights of the members of our Union.

Ginette Savard, President
Northern Quebec Teaching Association



On November 11th, LET US REMEMBER OUR OWN

November the 11th is the day of the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement as well as Remembrance Day.

We would like your memories and photos for a special edition of *The Nation*. What were you doing in 1975 and what did you look like? Please include names of people on the back of photos as well as a return address so we can send them back.

As well, *The Nation* is looking for photos and stories of James Bay veterans. Photos will be returned if you put a name and address on the back. Please include which war, unit, medals, time overseas, etc.

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ONE CHIEF TOO MANY IN FORT ALBANY

One community, two chiefs. Fort Albany is in a state of political uncertainty as two chiefs lay claim to being the community's rightful leader.

Arthur Scott was elected in a community election held by secret ballot on July 2. But trouble started soon after the election when some residents started getting the feeling that Scott was arrogant and running the band undemocratically.

One of the last straws came when Scott fired the community's elected education committee one year before its mandate was up. According to Mike Metatawabin, one of the committee members who was fired, Scott appointed new members to the committee who had little experience with education issues.

A heated band meeting was held August 27 to discuss Scott's actions. Metatawabin said Scott defended himself by saying, "I'm the boss. I can do anything I want."

"People got really upset over this," said Metatawabin. "We didn't like his tone."

Scott responded by accusing his critics of being disgruntled members of the former administration. He accused the previous administration of financial wrong-doing and wasting the community's money. "We uncovered some irregular practices with our big projects," Scott told us in an interview.

As the two sides traded accusations, a petition was circulated in Fort Albany calling for Scott's removal as chief. The petition was signed by 186 people.

Another general meeting was held on Sept. 5. Band members decided to hold what is known as a "custom election," a show of hands to select a new chief. Fort Albany

hasn't seen a custom election in about 30 years, but they are allowed under Indian Act rules, according to Metatawabin.

Scott, who was also present, refused to recognize the assembly and turned down his nomination. In all, 95 people voted in the custom election and elected Bernard Sutherland, a trapper and heavy-equipment operator, as chief.

But Scott still refuses to step down. "Snap elections have not been recognized since the 1950s," he told *The Nation*.

"You just can't have elections every two weeks. We have not done anything wrong here. We're trying to adopt a democratic environment here for all."

Scott said after he became chief, he made some disturbing discoveries about how the previous administration ran the band. For example, he said the band's construction company isn't actually owned by the band. Scott said the company is owned by the previous band manager. This company received millions of dollars from Indian Affairs for construction projects.

Scott also said the company overspent on a major project to the tune of \$517,000.

But Scott's critics say his allegations are unfounded. They say the band manager doesn't own the construction company. She merely allowed her name to be used when the company was being registered.

As for the overspending, they acknowledge that mistakes were made. But they also say Scott has been overspending himself since he came to power.

Wawatay News reports that Indian Affairs is staying out of the dispute, saying it's up to the community to figure out who is the real chief.

by Alex Roslin

GUILTY PLEA BY KITCHEN

Waswanipi's Chief, John Kitchen, pled guilty to a charge of impaired driving at a hearing of the itinerant court on Sept. 20.

He was sentenced to a mandatory fine of \$300 plus a \$30 surcharge and court expenses, according to Marie-Chantale Brassard, the prosecutor in the case.

Kitchen also cannot drive a vehicle in Canada for a period of three months. In addition, Brassard said offenders in impaired driving cases almost always have their license suspended for one year by the Automobile License Bureau.

The charge stems from an incident last year when Kitchen drove a vehicle off the road near the community's Band Council office.

KUUJJUAQ TRIES BOOZE BAN

"It was the quietest two weeks," said one resident of Kuujjuaq after the mayor banned alcohol sales in September.

Last month, Mayor Johnny Adams became so alarmed by a series of alcohol-related deaths that he asked the 250-seat Ikkaqivik Bar to close and the co-op to stop selling beer.

The municipal council also passed a bylaw limiting individual orders for alcohol flown up from the South to four cases of beer a month and 2 litres of liquor or 4 litres of wine.

These actions immediately cut down violence, said Constable Charles Bouliane of the Kativik Regional Police. "During those two weeks of the ban, there was almost no crime."

But the moves were unpopular with residents, who said the people should have been consulted by referendum. As one resident put it, "The money of the bar helps offset the expenses of the hotel. Jobs are there, too, and the hotel board contributes in a big way to local activities like the youth camp."

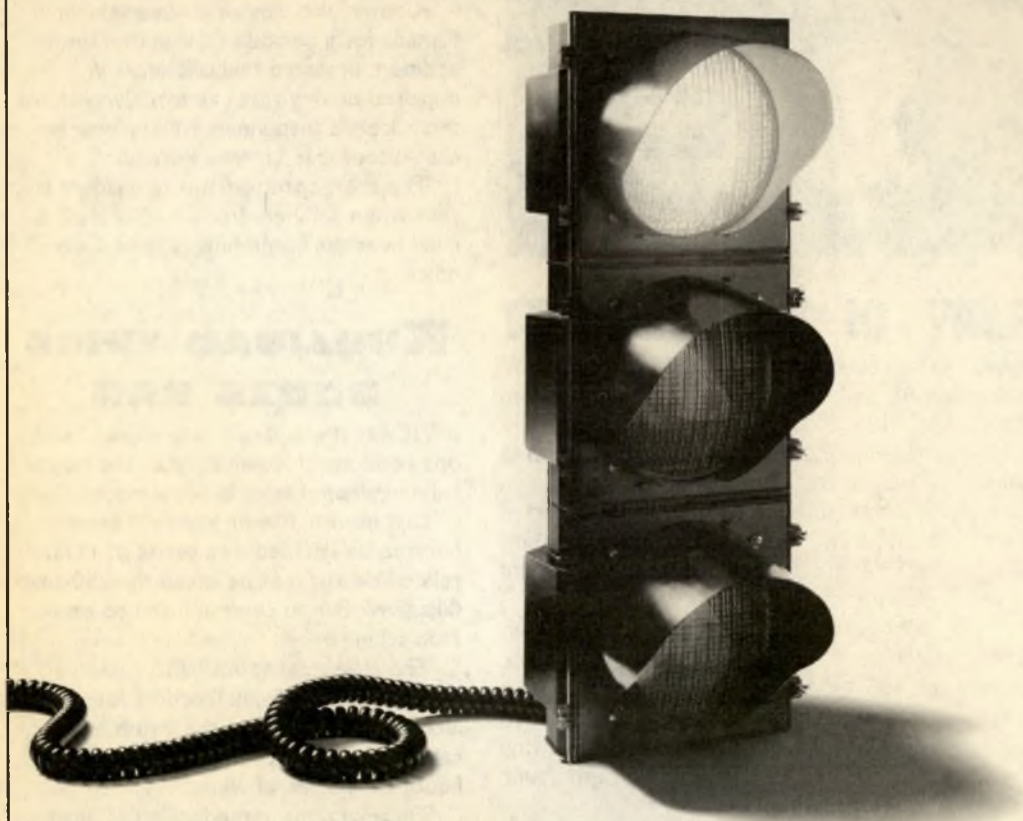
Thousands of dollars from recycling beer cans help pay for recreational activities.

In the referendum, 70 per cent voted to re-open the local bar. But 84 per cent also voted to ban beer sales at the co-op store, the other main source of alcohol in town. Mayor Adams said the outcome amounts to a "partial ban."

—Source: *The Montreal Gazette*

continued on page 9

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"If it's going to be, it's up to me"

Interview with basketball great Jack Donohue

Basketball came to Chisasibi in a big way last month courtesy of the Northern Lights Basketball Camp. An all-star team of guest coaches was on hand to teach the kids what they knew.

One of Canada's most famous basketball names, Jack Donohue, attended as a special guest coach for three of the five days. Donohue has become a legend after coaching the game for over 35 years, including 18 years with the Canadian Men's Olympic Team. In all, he coached at six Olympics.

Other illustrious guest coaches were Robby Phillips, who played for four years at Taylor University in Indiana on full scholarship, and Mike Chessser, who played for four years at Ball State University on a full scholarship.

The camp was held Sept. 23 to 27, and a 3-on-3 Tournament followed Sept. 28 to 29.

Sarah Glisky conducted the following interview with Jack Donohue during the camp. Sarah is the recreation coordinator for the Chisasibi First Nation and founded the Northern Lights Basketball Camp three years ago.

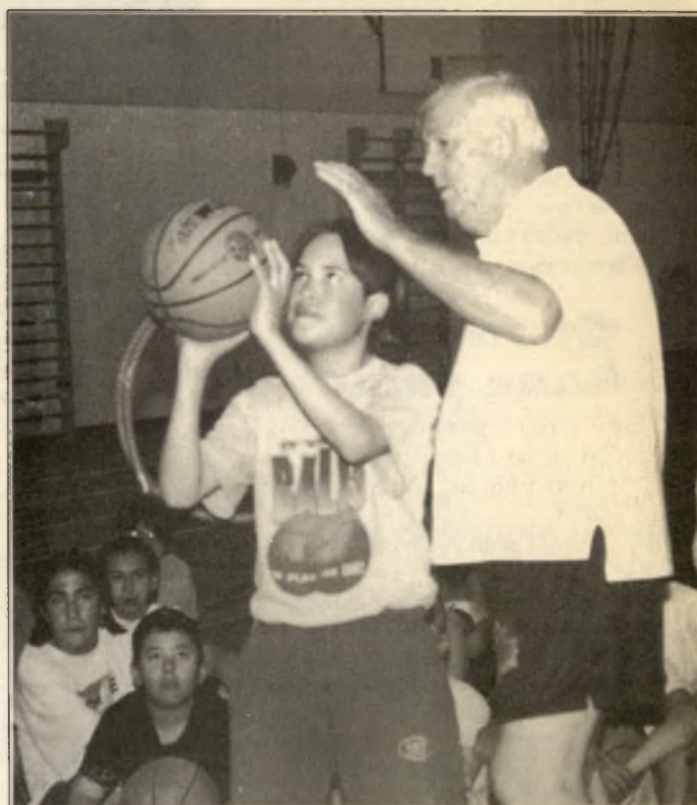
Sarah Glisky: You've coached and played with some of the biggest names in basketball. Can you name some of them?

Jack Donohue: We played against all of the great players who are in the NBA, I would say. I mean Carl Malone, John Stockman. I got to be pretty friendly with Charles Barkley. We didn't play against the crazy guy who plays for Chicago—I'm trying to think of his name... But we played against many, many great players.

The players I coached who went on, starting in high school—Joe Isaacs played with the Mets; Albert Kenney was a young guy whose induction into the Hall of Fame I just went to, played many years in Europe, one of the great European players; John Hays played baseball; another one went to UCLA and then on to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Can you tell me that story you told me earlier about Charles Barkley?

We beat the United States up in Edmonton in the World Student



Games in 1983, publicly the biggest moment that Canada's ever had in basketball. But whenever I see Barkley he kids me about it. He'll tell the reporters don't go near that guy; that guy's a cheat, they cheated us up in Canada, those Canadians you can't trust them.

But I had a great experience with him. I believe I was in Portland for a pre-Olympic tournament, the first Dream Team, and he was surrounded by reporters. So he yells something to me. I was just going to wave hello, and in a way it was a little embarrassing because I was afraid somebody on the Canadian team would see me, but he grabbed me and threw me over his shoulders like a fireman. "I'm getting this guy. I'm going to straighten him out." We just went in an alleyway and he says we're never going to get to talk with all those people. We just sat around and chatted for a little bit. He's a charming person and I think he really controls the press.

Are you still active in coaching clinics in Canada?

I do an awful lot of clinics. But the camps I don't get to do as



much as I'd like to. I used to have my own camp for about 10 or 11 years while I was in the States, and I really miss that in Canada—working with young players.

The reason I came up here for this camp is because of you Sarah calling and really being polite about it. It's a term I use—you chased me without being impolite. Some people can't handle that. Some people it's either be polite or do the chasing. Last year it didn't work out. I was really disappointed we couldn't get up last year. When this came up I said I'm getting up right away.

And it was a challenge working with some of the Native youth. I've worked with Native peoples in British Columbia and Alberta, but it was with adults—teachers and coaches more than young people. And I enjoy young people more than anything else.

How is the camp here different from most camps you've done?

Well, I don't think it was much different from many camps in the past. It was well-organized. Everything was kind of laid out. There was enthusiasm of the players, especially the older players. It was really refreshing how excited they were about basketball and how hard they worked. So except for probably the enthusiasm of the athletes, I don't think it's any different than any other camp I've been to. It's a matter of organization and having a pretty good schedule and working on it.

What types of basketball skills did you focus on with the youth?

I think we talked an awful lot, the three of us, about the fundamentals. The thing they have to learn is the basics of the game. Every team, when they have a bad streak, they go back to basics. These guys, what we try to remind them is they've got to start with those basics. They've got to have a good stance, they've got to be able to shoot the basketball, they've got to be able to handle the basketball and they've got to be able to rebound. And then passing and catching, which we spent quite a bit of time on.

So we worked on the fundamentals of the game and then got the opportunity to throw in some of the nuances, with the blocks, screens, and two- and three-man plays. They got a chance to use those things when they did scrimmage.



How would you evaluate the calibre of the kids who participated in the camp?

I think there are players in the camp who could play college and university basketball. Which is the only criteria I would get as to how far people could go. At this particular moment, very few of these players play in college and university. If they do the work, because they are young, when the time comes to go to university and college, if they put in the time and effort that they put in here in the last week, then they're going to be ready to play.

How was the response to your instruction at the camp?

I thought it was great. I mean everybody listened and that, as a speaker, as a lecturer, as a coach—the only thing you can ask is that people pay attention. And these kids really paid attention and went out of their way to do what we were teaching them.

What additional values or messages did the youth leave with after the clinic?

I just hope that they left with a better sense of the game of basketball—but only basketball in perspective, that basketball was just one of the many things they did. So a better sense of basketball, but then I hope that they had a better feeling about themselves. I think when young people try something that they've never done before and either fail at it, which is the usual first step, and then finally conquer it, that's a good life skill—the fact that here was something that wasn't comfortable, wasn't easy, and yet now it's become comfortable and pretty easy for me to do it.

So a better sense of their own self. More belief in themselves, which I believe is the greatest criteria for success in every one of us, which is how we feel about ourselves since everything is interpreted by the way we feel about ourselves. And, secondly, maybe a little more feeling of control about their future. And we use that term—If it's going to be, it's up to me. And that means accepting the fact that I am responsible for where I am going.

If you could reach one child with one message, what would that message be?

continued on page 12

Believe in yourself. That would probably be the message. There are a lot of messages—I wouldn't want to give just one (*laughter*)... But that's probably the best one.

Now that you're working as an assistant with the Vancouver Grizzlies, how will you be spending your winter?

I'm working more as a consultant with the Grizzlies and the job hasn't been defined yet. Last year, what I did was some public relations, public appearances for them, spoke at a couple of banquets and worked with the coaches. Just to be a sounding board really. I helped out very, very little in the draft. I wasn't prepared to help out in the draft because I didn't follow it as well as I could have. This year I will hopefully be able to help a little bit more in the selection of our players.

In the coming year, I will probably also give some management seminars to the people in the building who have nothing to do with basketball. For players or personnel who are interested, I will do some kind of presence skills course. I might fill in on the radio or on TV, although that's not what I'm excited about. That would really be close to working, which I try to avoid as much as possible.

What are some of your personal career highlights that stand most prominent in your mind?

The biggest highlight in my whole life was my first child when she was about 8 seconds old I held her in my hands. I was in the delivery room. That's probably the biggest thing that's ever happened to me. And then my marriage to my wife.

One of my career highlights is the move to Canada actually. I was coaching, very successful, enjoying it, looking for something else. And then when I came to Canada I found an ideal situation for me. I was dealing with older players. They were totally committed to what they were doing. They had no distractions. We didn't have the distractions of school, family, other things. We were together for short periods of time and totally committed to playing basketball. And did very, very well. We really accomplished an awful lot. To me, part of that was that they didn't have the distractions. And then we made sure they had time back home because many of them had families and jobs.

And the other thing is relationships with some of the people. My best friends right now probably are two coaches I work with. People like that are great friends of mine, people I either coached or worked with.

Now that you're not coaching a Canadian or national team, what do you spend the majority of your time on?

The majority of my time, if you talk to my kids, is spent in sleeping (*laughter*)... But I speak to companies and organizations on leadership, team-building, communication, and control and change. So that's how I feed my family. I enjoy getting into the school systems as much as possible. And I spend a lot of time with my kids and I spend a lot of time resting also. Things that you do well, you should do them a lot. And I remind my kids I'm a good sleeper.

What are some of the countries that basketball has taken you to?

Although I am scheduled to go to Africa in the next couple of months, I have not yet been to Africa. But every other continent. China, Russia, places people would not think of—the Philippines. I have not been to Albania. But all around, all of the Iron Curtain countries we've played in. There's very good basketball in the Iron Curtain countries.



When you were growing up as a child, how many hours did you play basketball?

When I was very young I did not play basketball. I played other sports. But once I got involved in basketball, which would have been around 16 or 17—and the reason I did that is I hung out with older guys and they used to do everything with me; they really treated me as an equal until we started playing basketball and then they wouldn't let me play because I was no good and that really annoyed me. So I worked very, very hard on it.

But in high school, aside from other practice, they probably put in two or three hours every day playing basketball. National team players, aside from practice, probably put in five or six hours every day when they are not with the team. They put a lot of time into it. They do not sacrifice their family, they do not sacrifice their education, but they put a lot of time into it.

Now, what young people should understand is that's the top of the heap. Those people have decided this is what they want to do. They've given up football, they've given up soccer, they've given up golf, volleyball. Young people, I think they should spend that same amount of time, but they should spread it out over a bunch of different sports. They should be playing a number of different sports to figure out what it is they really enjoy and they have a talent for. And when you're 12 and 13, nobody can truly pick that.

Then as you get a little older—and I'd say 16 or 17 is a good age—I think you're ready. At 16, 17, you're deciding on your career, you're deciding on schools and things like that. I think then you can decide on sports.

How important do you feel grades are for athletes?

In the sport we're involved in, basketball, it's absolutely essential. We have recreational leagues all over the country. But they are not the epitome of basketball. For your age class, the best basketball is played in a school setting. That's elementary school, high school, college and university. So marks are very important for a few reasons. They're important away from sport obviously because they are an indication to future employers and others as to what you've accomplished.

But as far as sport is, it relieves you of the problems of worrying about school all the time. Because we'd like people when they come to practice not to worry about school. And if you're not doing well in school, that has to bear on you. The other thing is that good marks will enable you to go to better universities. If I have a certain minimal average, I will probably have five or six places I can go to school in Canada, whereas if I have very good marks, it's unlimited. I can go any place in North America or any place in the world.

A lot of people don't realize that Karim Abdul Jabar could have gone to any school in North America. He had a 90 average in school. He was outstanding in school. He probably could have gotten as many academic scholarships as basketball scholarships. He went on a basketball scholarship to UCLA and that's how he made his living. If you want to play in North America, you have to stay in the school system.

How were you able to juggle your family and basketball?

Well, I think my family might function better when I'm away. I think I confuse things when I come home (*laughter*)... Well, we have some pretty strict rules. We talk almost every day. Sunday is our day. Our family is together every Sunday. That's right from when they were in elementary school. We put in at least two weeks every August on a beach—it's a home but there's a beautiful place to swim right on the Atlantic Ocean, just north of Atlantic City. We have not only our family, but my cousin and my sister's family. So there's about 40 of us who are down there every August for about the last 14 years. And weddings—with six kids you've got weddings all over the place. So I think we work pretty hard at keeping our family up to date.

Have you ever thought about coaching in the NBA?

I have thought about coaching in the NBA, but nobody in the NBA was thinking about me coaching. One or two times when somebody in the NBA talked to me about coaching, I wasn't interested. At this stage, no, I wouldn't want to coach in the NBA. I think it's a very, very tough job. I'm not sure how much coaching is done in the NBA. I don't mean that the coaches aren't smart. I just mean that there's less and less influence of the coach on the player in the NBA than there ever was.

What would you say is the future of basketball in Canada and internationally?

In Canada, the game is very positive. And that's because of the two NBA teams coming in. I thought that maybe the national Olympic team could create an excitement about basketball, but I had to realize that the media had a love affair with basketball every four years. That was for the Olympics and no other time. Now, there are people assigned to write and speak about basketball in television, radio and the newspapers. And there are more baskets and hoops up I know in my neighbourhood than there ever have been. And that's where the game has to start, with young people and with camps like we just finished now.

Is there anything you wanted to add?

Just one thing. I mentioned to the kids we used mirrors a lot. They look in the mirror and think good things about themselves. We used that a lot because we realized early on that self-image was important. I have about half-dozen of these things and they're on every mirror in our house. I don't know where I got them. On it, it says the greatest message. It's one of those decals and it says: "You are looking at the only person responsible for your future." To me, if people can believe in themselves they can do impossible things. Every time you pick up the business paper, the sports paper or a scientific paper, you find somebody who has absolutely no right in the world to be on top of the world, and they just decided that's what they're going to do.

Thanks for the interview.
Okay. That's super.



Northern Lights Basketball Camp Awards

10-15 year olds Category

Most Positive Player: Bernadette House (Chis.)
Best Hustle: Paula Menarick (Chis.)
Most Helpful Player: Staneley Swallow (Chis.)
Most Improved Player: Adam Gates (Chis.)
All-Around Player Award: Jason Langdon (Chis.)
"Gym Rat" Award: Conway McKenzie (Chis.)
Special Coaches Award: Evelyn Tanoush (Nemaska)

16 years and over Category

Most Positive Player: Chad McKenzie (Nem.)
Best Hustle: Greg Kanatewat (Chis.)
Most Helpful Player: David Herman (Chis.)
Most Improved Player: Liette Neacappo (Chis.)
All-Around Player Award: Tim Matoush (Mist.)
Coaches Award: Paul Pachano (Chis.)
Special Coaches Award: Mimie Neacappo (Chis.)

3-on-3 Tournament Results

Girls' Finals: Chisasibi Fugees (Champions), Chisasibi Nikes (Finalists)
Boys' Finals: Chisasibi Too Hot to Handle (Champs), Eastmain Future (Finalists)
Youth Women Finals: Chisasibi Crazy Cougars (Champs), Nemaska (Finalists)
Youth Men Finals: Chisasibi Indians From Hell (Champs), Nemaska Baby Bulls (Finalists)
Women's Finals: Chis. Dazed & Confused (Champs), Chisasibi Women (Finalists)
Men's Finals: Chis. Hall of Pain (Champs), Chis. Super Sonics (Finalists)

Contest Winners

Knock Out Contest: Jason Langdon
3-Point Shot Contest: Paul Moses (youth), Calvin House (adults)
Free Throw Contest: Darren Gilpin (boys/girls, 10-13), William Sam (youth, 14-17), Clarence House (adults)
Hot Shot Contest: Conway McKenzie (youth), John Fireman (adults)

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW

The Cree Naskapi Commission just released its 1996 Report. The Honourable Justice Réjean Paul, who is Chair of the Commission, gave *The Nation* a chance to look into this year's recommendations. Some were expected and others were as surprising as this man turned out to be. He talks candidly about the lengthy court process in Canada. The need for a mediation process to speed things up. Judge Paul is a refreshing breath of air in what most people perceive as the stuffy bureaucracy of government.

Judge Paul has been chairman for 10 of the Cree Naskapi Commission's 10 years. He talks about a need for mediation and increased powers for the CNC as well as updating its mandate to reflect today's needs. --- By William Nicholls and Alex Roslin

IN CONVERSATION WITH JUDGE RÉJEAN PAUL

The Nation: In the past and in this latest report the CNC talks about the unfulfilled obligations of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA), you seem to feel very strongly about that?

Justice Réjean Paul: Yes, well, let's face it, the Agreement is from my point of view a modern treaty which was signed by the Crees in 1975 and the Naskapi in 1978. A lot of the obligations have not been fulfilled by either the federal or mainly by the provincial government. And to a certain extent, the federal government.

So the Crees had to go to the Superior Court and they filed a suit in 1990, but since then nothing much has happened. Since 1994, nothing has happened on this file so I figured that a lot of things can be done. A lot of things can be done through mediation in this case instead of going through the very long process of the court system.

I was involved, for example, in the Adams case, which was handed down last week. Well, that case started in 1984. The judgment in the first instance, I sat on appeal in 1985. Eleven years after, the Supreme Court of Canada has rendered a very good decision in my opinion, in favour of the Mohawks. And the Côté case was handed down in favour the same day of the Algonquins. But the court process is very long if you go up the ladder. Instead



of going through that process we found out that based on our experience mediation is more effective and less expensive for the communities.

Say, for example, you look at Chapter 28 (*"Economic and Social Development—Crees. - Ed. Note*) in the JBNQA. All of the socio-economic section has mainly not been dealt with by the authorities. This is of great concern to me because the only socio-economic funding, to my knowledge, that has been granted was for Ouje-Bougoumou. And the other communities, they have from our point of view, according to the Commission, a lot of obligations like that which have not been fulfilled.

We can talk about Chapter 22 (*Environment and Future Development North of the 55th Parallel*). We can talk about Chapter 19 (*Police—Crees*). Here and there are bits and pieces of obligations that have not been fulfilled. We all know that the provincial government is in hard times, a difficult financial situation and the federal government also. The way to cope with the situation where you have financial obligation, in my opinion, will cost a lot of moneys. Whether you are Hydro-Quebec or the federal authorities, a lot of these obligations cannot be met right now if it's cash payments or some other kind of payments.

Instead of that maybe we should look at revenue-sharing from the hydro-electric projects, in order for the government to fulfill their obligations. And for the Crees, to have some sort of substantial income coming on a yearly basis to all communities. That might be an interesting avenue to explore in the years to come. This can quite easily be done through mediation.

In fact what we found out is... Look at Ouje-Bougoumou. In 1988, when I was appointed mediator, I had to deal with the Ouje-

Bougoumou file. As you can see they were spread out all over the place, living in Third World conditions from everyone's point of view. At one of the first mediation meetings that I chaired, the federal authorities refused to grant \$50,000 in order to do a feasibility study on the village. And finally I had to push hard on the federal government.

What has happened? These people have their home and probably the most beautiful village in Canada. They were granted the UN award last year. It's quite an achievement. And that was realized in three years. This village started in 1992.

In comparison if these people had gone through the court process, Ouje-Bougoumou would not exist. We don't know what would have been the end result. There are a lot of things that have to be done, legally speaking, to recognize Ouje-Bougoumou as the ninth Cree Band. We have to amend the JBNQA and the Cree Naskapi Act. Transfer the land from Mistissini to Ouje-Bougoumou via referendums and the quorums are too high. They have tried desperately to have their land under Category I and recognized.

They have had tremendous support from Mistissini. Still not enough people showed up to vote. Even though 98 per cent of the people accepted the transfer, nothing has been done. We're dealing with the report. The quorum report is a very sensitive issue. We have too downgrade the percentage in some areas.

So you see a lot of voter apathy?
Yes.

So you are actually looking at changing the quorums?

Changing the quorums, we have certainly suggested that to the Crees and the Naskapis. They have supported that. The GCCQ and the Naskapi Band have supported that and insisted that we raise that with the proper authorities at a certain level. We recognize that, we have seen that in previous reports, but now it is time to act.

When you're talking mandate, do you see that as a need to expand the CNC's mandate?

Obviously we are working with an old mandate dating back to 1988. This was recognized by the inquiry into the commission in 1990 that the CNC should be granted the opportunity on mediation with the unfulfilled obligations or any other problem.

It's quick. We are doing that for other matters at Superior Court. Why shouldn't we recognize that in the Cree Naskapi Act in order to give a really good legal standing to the Commission?

One of the other things that you talked about is the need for changes in self-government?

We are concerned about the amendments. We are very concerned about the amendments to the Indian Act. What impacts will be felt by Cree self-government because of these amendments? The Cree self-government is the first in Canada and we have to protect that. We are supported by that in the preliminary findings

of the Royal Commission. At the Commission we want to be sure that the Cree self-government will not be downgraded by any amendments to other acts. We are warning the parties we will be looking very closely at any amendments that might downgrade self-government for the Crees.

What areas is the CNC worried about?

I'm worried about the territory. First of all, in the self-government issue the traditional way of life is very important for the Crees and the Naskapis. Now with the harvesting rights and other rights that are given to non-Native people within the territory, there is a danger that the traditional way of life might be put in jeopardy. We are looking very closely at that. The Crees have brought the harvesting issue up to us very clearly. The Crees are working very hard to protect their traditional territory. We have to be very careful what is given to the non-Native people within the traditional territories. That is why we are raising questions. It's in order to assure the people that we are monitoring the situation and if anything happens we will react promptly.

I know one of the issues was the moose harvesting. Are you doing something about that?

No, we are reporting on that. As you know we are a federal board and obviously we cannot officially deal with the province of Quebec based on our mandate. We do keep in contact with the government of Quebec and if the Crees ask us to intervene, we will. Based on the recent decisions by Adams and Coté in the Superior Court I think the Crees have a good standing.

What did those decisions mean?

Adams and Coté said mainly that provincial regulations were mainly regarding fishing and that the Mohawks did not need permits. The law was not applicable to them because if they were fishing for food it was a traditional right not attached to any part of land. If they occupied the territory and hunted and fished for food, then they are still entitled to that. The issuing of a provincial fishing permit was discretionary in the hands of the Minister of Fish and Game in Quebec, and the Supreme Court said no.

If there's a conservation issue then the laws might be applicable to Native people. If the government fails to prove that they need to protect the survival of the particular species, then the Natives are allowed to fish without permits or limitation. On the other hand if there is a need for conservation legislation, then the first ones entitled to hunt and fish for food are the Natives in their traditional territory and not the non-Native sportsman.

So that's an important decision from the Court and it's a great victory for Native people in Canada. Of course, when I rendered my decision I was bound by the decisions of other courts in 1985. We did not have at that time the enlightened views of the Supreme Court to guide us (*laughter*)... It was only handed down last week.

You can have a
fantastic
agreement but if
your people are
starving then you
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Maamuitaau

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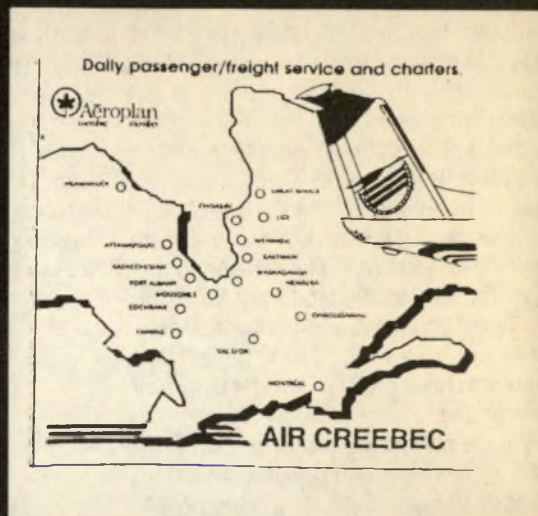
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That's why the Mohawks lost before me. I must say very clearly I had to apply the law, but I knew that the Supreme Court, with the Charter of Rights especially, could deal with that under Section 35 (*Recognition of existing aboriginal and treaty rights*). Now we cannot say any more that Section 35 is an empty nutshell. The decision was a great victory for Natives in my view.

What powers does the Commission have to force the government to live up to its obligations?

We can only make recommendations. But of course in a capacity of mediator, I have a moral authority and the parties would think twice before disregarding any recommendations from my part. Unless I'm totally out of bounds. If it's reasonable and secondly I feel that it's just a question of fairness to grant something to these people.

Up to now we have been very successful in our mediation. Think about the O&M Transfer Agreement. The question of the interest rates regarding the Ouje-Bougoumou Agreement. All these mediation issues have been dealt with very successfully and quickly. The major problem is it's informal. It's an informal process without the decorum of the court, lawyers and objections, etc. We tried to reach the same target at a swift speed, that's the best way.

I must say that my Cree and Naskapi friends really like that because we sit around and discuss. I may intervene if it gets a little bumpy to calm people down and get them a cup of coffee, go out and speak to some individuals in the backroom and come back to the table. It's a very flexible process and we found out at the court it's preferable. Most of the cases dealing with Native affairs, the judges have said mediation is the way to get out of this. With all the experts you have to listen through the day and then you finally say, "What are we trying to prove?" (laughter)...

In mediation we go to the important issue. For example, in our report you will see that we, on purpose, raised the question of the Chisasibi airport. Every year they encounter a major problem with the spring thaw. Planes cannot land or take off two to three weeks. The Cree Regional Hospital is located in Chisasibi.

I was a victim of the airport myself so I understand the problem. I landed at the airstrip and the person who was going to pick me up was delayed. There was no airport building and it was around minus 30 or 40, I think at the time. There were

**We have to double
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territory. I saw
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12 to 14 in the
same house. That's
clearcut nonsense.**

two rusted tanks in the vicinity so I was huddled between the two trying to avoid the wind.

So I can say you need a building there and Chisasibi desperately needs a proper airstrip. I know it's in Block D and belongs to the SDBJ, but nevertheless this problem should be solved and solved very quickly. I don't care who is responsible for that. That's the way I feel and how I think the Crees feel in general. Lives are at stake. I've said to the government, "Hey wake up, it's about time we upgrade that and have a proper facility in Chisasibi."

Now some people will say in Radisson you have an airstrip and it's a proper facility. Well, in the case of an emergency you have a lot of planes going to Chisasibi. In an emergency Air Creebec can move very quickly to Chisasibi and bring the patient to a hospital anywhere. The ride between Radisson and Chisasibi during the winter-time is not an easy one. People might think it might take you an hour, but I've driven in the winter-time and I know what I'm talking about. Those are the things that should be dealt with by mediation as soon as possible.

Would you consider housing to be one of those things also?

This is not just a Cree/Naskapi problem. This is a national problem. Native people are in desperate need of proper shelter. There is a growing boom in the Cree communities and we have to face that. Based on the figures we have, I think we have to double the number of houses in the territory in order to face the baby-boom. I saw some people living 12 to 14 in the same house.

That's clear-cut nonsense when you're

a young couple trying to start a family. You have to get them the proper shelter with the proper facilities.

The situation is unacceptable by any standards. Southern standards or northern standards.

Say the Commission comes up with a way to bring the Crees/Naskapi up to southern standards, will it have an effect on other Native bands across Canada?

Yes. A lot of Native bands and I've been getting calls from across the country asking me what's going on in the Cree communities. This is because the Crees have a modern treaty. The others don't except for the Sechelt band. They are saying, Should we go that way of the modern treaty if we get back to square one and don't get the proper facilities?

So the Crees are setting a precedent every time they do something based on the obligations in the JBNQA. It's very important that we settle according to that agreement all the outstanding problems. The housing problem is a major issue. It has been raised many times and we reflect that in our report.

So what do you tell those other communities? That it will take them away from square one?

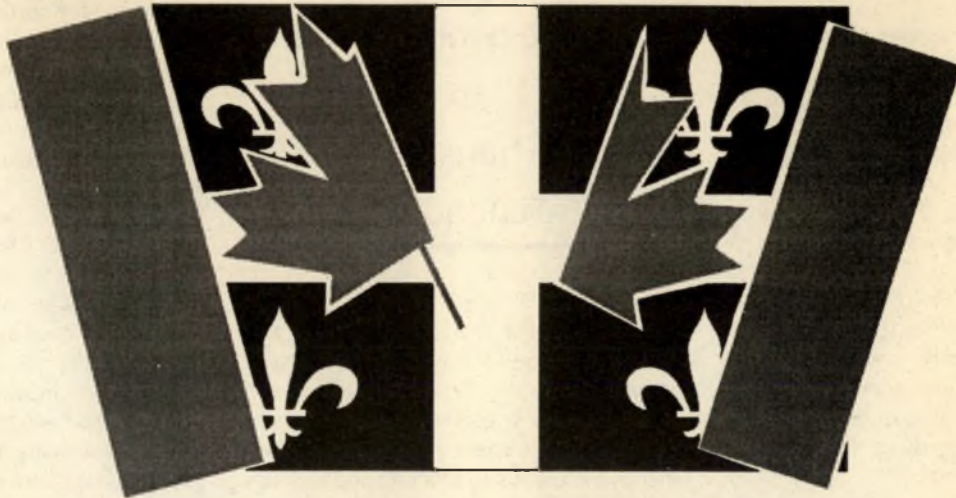
Well, I think that a lot of good things have happened. The Crees, as you well know, were in front of a *fait accompli* they were forced to fight. They were forced to fight because they did not get anything because the bulldozers were already there. Face it, we cannot revise history.

The leaders at that time, Billy Diamond, Robert Kanatawat and others really did a tremendous job under duress to a great extent. The younger generation tends to forget that. These guys were outstanding based on the tools they had at their disposal at that time. Let me tell you it was to the detriment of their health and families. I would like to see the Agreement fulfilled by the 20th century.

We can criticize that but I don't think we should criticize that because they were the best under the circumstances. But now it's time to look at the Agreement and to a certain extent modernize it. After 20 years we need to bring that up to contemporary standards. We have to look at the contractual obligations and say they are obligations. Some are dubious but some are very clear and we have to settle them. The best way to settle them in my opinion is through mediation. If you go the route of

continued on page 19

Marc Lalonde, Montreal, September 1996



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litigation you'll see each other until the year 2006. That'll be with the judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada. It takes 10 years.

One of the interesting recommendations is the change that the Commission wants concerning the infamous 10-year clause?

We want to renegotiate the 10-year clause to take into account the situation when you have compelling reasons to leave because, for example, of lack of housing, education and employment opportunities. We recommend that Cree beneficiaries not be unfairly penalized. We have had some requests from Cree beneficiaries who were in that situation and we say that it might be unfair that they lose their status and the privileges when they have good reasons to be out of the territory. We are asking the Grand Council to look at the situation very closely. Though it doesn't happen often, we are getting more requests from outside the communities all the time. We are concerned about that because there are a lot of benefits attached to the beneficiary status.

Look at the younger generation. A lot of them will lose their status because they are studying. You are penalizing your best beneficiaries because they want to be professionals. Lawyers, doctors, etc. A doctor takes 10 to 12 years to be a specialist. So what will happen? For them to lose their status, that's nonsense, let's face it.

Another recommendation deals with development and you refer to the 400 new jobs being required for the Crees every year. What is the Commission looking at?

In the report we emphasize resource-sharing. I'm pushing for the joint ventures in the communities. There should be positive discrimination where the Crees get first choice of the jobs in the communities and the territory. It's very important that the Crees receive first-class treatment when there is a joint venture with the communities. That way we can create the 400 jobs a year.

But we have to attack that as soon as possible, otherwise you get all kinds of companies going to the Cree traditional territories. Look at something like forestry. They are taking out the resources of the territory with non-Native workers. There isn't very much left for the Crees in that scenario. I'm pushing towards joint ventures in order to create jobs for the Crees. A lot of young people have phoned and talked about that. I think they would be an asset for any company because they know the territory and the way of life, etc. They would be very good workers. We have to think about that or we would be missing the point.

You can have a fantastic agreement, but if your people are starving then you haven't really accomplished much.

The development that is happening now, is it in accordance with the JBNQA. Is the government following its obligations?

Well, it's not clear. At the time of the signing there were a lot of pious vows, I think, and it was vague to a certain extent. But we have to look at what's going on right now. Resources within the territory should be looked at by the Crees and they should push for both governments to maintain rights, especially on Category III lands. If you cut the wood you are cutting the traditional life of the Crees.

One of the ways to deal with that is to have an agreement like the Barriere Lake Agreement. You have sound resource

Look at the younger generation. A lot of them will lose their status because they are studying. You are penalizing your best beneficiaries.

management with a surveillance committee by the Algonquins. It's in order to protect the territory, but they also get revenues from that. Of course, they have other problems in the community, but these can be dealt with if they agree on the leadership.

In the Cree territory, I am concerned despite the 2.1 clause (*Surrender of Rights*). If we want to protect the territory and the way of life, we have to think of that. You have to go back to specific sections in the JBNQA. Crees were allocated Category I and II but Category III is also part of the traditional lands.

So if we want to protect the way of life, we have to protect the territory the same way. That's why the Crees have to develop and exploit the resources in the territory so that it

will be under the control of the Crees to a certain extent. Then you'll see the Cree manpower at work.

Another problem is environmental assessment and in most cases this doesn't happen.

Yes, this is a major issue.

This is part of the JBNQA and there is a disagreement about it. What's your position on it?

This isn't brand new, but I do think in the JBNQA the environmental section should apply because it's a modern treaty. It supercedes the Environment Act in my point of view. I've told this to the government. They may just say it's Judge Paul's point of view, but I think that the government would have a bumpy ride to convince a judge that a treaty has no precedence over the laws of general applicability in the province.

The report talks about changes to the firearms laws...

That was raised by the Grand Council of the Crees. We think that the Council should be involved in the drafting of the regulations because there is a danger in these regulations. I am a hunter myself and these regulations are difficult to abide with.

If you're living in the Cree territory like your ancestors, there should be accommodations. That's what we say to the Grand Council and the Department of Justice, the Crees should be involved. It will help out the other Native communities also but the fact remains that the Cree have a modern treaty. We have to protect the traditional way of life and firearms are at stake obviously.

The Crees have been in negotiations with Quebec for over a year now. What in your view have they accomplished?

Well, I'm not updated on the provincial level. It's totally separate from my mediation roles. I know Chief Billy Diamond is involved in that. There's also the Vena process at the federal level.

This is a personal view, but I find the Crees tend to divide their mediation issues. There is a danger that too much is too much. We should have a central table to determine priorities with lesser priorities, etc. We can determine the highest as we go along. If you have three or four processes, you may lose in the end.

With a central table and a mediator both parties will stick to the agenda. That's a personal view and it's up to the Crees to decide what political or legal route they should adapt.

Finally, I must say that we are in their hands. We are there to help. We did so in the past and we are anxious to do so in the future.

Open Letter to Commissioners Cree School Board

By Dorothy MacLeod-Nicholls

On September 18, our student association attended your commissioners' meeting at the new site for the Post-Secondary School offices in Montreal. Our intentions were to meet with anyone who would listen to our reasons for opposing the moving of the offices. We were successful in that you acknowledged us as students who had found it hard to accept your decision to place us further away from our colleges and universities.

The feeling of disapproval and, perhaps, offensiveness we felt was not what we expected. We had come as one body of students to express our needs and our feelings. Instead I felt that I was a "bad girl" who had stepped out of line.

I thought I was practicing my freedom of expression and I had hoped you would welcome the challenge that we presented to you. Not at any time had I felt that I was treading on forbidden waters. Our presentation was met by a group of commissioners who would not smile, openly showed their disapproval and rattled off more political reasons why it was necessary to relocate their offices.

What does the post-secondary office mean to me? When I first came to Montreal to attend school, I knew nothing about the city. Since I was 51 years old, I didn't have parents to help me get settled in. I found friends who let me stay with them until we moved into an apartment. I must have been at the post-secondary office every day asking questions, being directed in the right direction, and with the help of the Student Affairs Technician, I found a school for my granddaughter to attend.

I needed help to take a metro and to register for my courses. In the first month I lost 20 lbs. running from place to place. All the while, the post-secondary staff and second- and third-year students became resource persons I rely on.

After establishing myself in classes and a routine, I began to find out what university was all about. One month in and I was discouraged. I phoned home to tell my husband I wasn't smart enough to attend university and I was coming home. He encouraged me to stay another month. Shortly after this, as I sat in the library of the post-secondary office, trying to sort through what I felt was a mountain of work, a student approached me and asked how I was doing. I told him I was discouraged and would probably go home. Concerned, he sat down and encouraged me to stay. "Even if you fail a couple of subjects, don't stop, keep going, things will change. I felt like you did when I first came here. The things to do is to keep going and don't quit. You are not stupid." This was something I could accept and understand. He was a student and he made me feel I should keep trying. Since then, I have had the chance to encourage more than one student in the same way. This is support.

Many times we long for the familiar sounds of home and it does not take much to depress us. Being together means sharing the same feelings and knowing what each one is going through. The post-secondary office is the place where we go between classes to work on our assignments, photocopy and to use the library. It is also a place where we eat our lunch and have coffee breaks.



I thought I was practicing my freedom of expression and I had hoped you would welcome the challenge that we presented to you.



OUJE-BOUGOUMOU HOCKEY & BROOMBALL INVITATIONAL

November 14-15-16-17, 1996

at the Chapais Arena in Chapais, Quebec

**PRIZE MONEY OF OVER \$19 500
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DIVISION	# OF TEAMS	ENTRY FEE
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	Finalists - \$1500.00	
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To register your team or for more information, please contact:

Réal Lacroix
Ph: 418-745-3911
Fax: 418-745-3426

Deadline for Registration:
November 1, 1996 at 4:00pm.
This includes payment of registration fees. A penalty of \$100.00 will be charged after this deadline.

Payments are to be made by Certified cheque, Money Order or Cash made payable to:

Ouje-Bougoumou Eenuch Association
207 Opemiska Meskino
P.O. Box 217
Ouje-Bougoumou, Quebec
G0W 3C0

Please send a fax of your payment along with the team registration / confirmation of entry.

This tournament is organized in brotherhood spirit and for the enjoyment and good sportsmanship of all participants.

Notes:

The first teams to register and pay their registration fees will be accepted. No exceptions. All other teams will be placed on stand-by basis.

Each player and coach will have to buy a weekend pass at \$10.00 each. If you do not have your pass, you will have to pay the regular daily rate.

All teams are reminded to be ready to play on Thursday, November 14, 1996 as the tournament starts on this date. Your travel date may be on Wednesday, November 13, 1996. Prize money may vary depending upon the number of teams. Please include a deposit of \$100.00 defaultation fee. All teams must be present for their scheduled games. This deposit will be returned at the end of the tournament.

September 11

POETRY

We had a woman chief once—the only woman chief in James Bay. We believed she would understand our concerns about more developments. At that time the Crees were nervously dreading a repeat of what had happened at James Bay I: It might happen again at Great Whale.

Chisasibi was split in half. Some wanted the lady chief to stay in power; some said it was time for a change.

We in Chisasibi thought having a woman chief was common sense, but there was no communication between the lady chief and her people. The relationship was cold and hollow.

I phoned her one day. She was sceptical but courteous. I told her the people of Chisasibi wanted her out.

I'm not surprised at what she said and added whatever the changes that lay ahead, the greatest benefits lie to the outside world. We cannot do without the outside world (meaning the white world). I agreed.

But I thought, what about the challenge that lies in the warmth and sharing dignity on common grounds? Isn't that the warmth we had proudly shared through centuries throughout the Cree world?

On August 26, 1996, the lady chief of Chisasibi became Deputy Grand Chief.

What an exciting age it is we live in with all this talk about the hope of youth. I was hoping for a growing support for a younger Deputy Grand Chief.

Margaret Cromarty

Sister, you are so important to me

You're important to me because we share many of the same ideas and beliefs—and even when we don't, we respect the other's opinion.

You're important to me because we share memories of childhood struggles, teenage rebellion and adult responsibilities. Those memories are unique to you and me...

You're important to me because we share laughter, but at times we laugh over things that no one but us can find the humour in. That's my favourite kind of laughter, and you are my favourite person to share it with.

You're important to me because we share tears. Sometimes they are regular tears, but at times they are private tears, that only we can share and understand... Those are the most important kind, and I'm thankful that I have you to share them with.

You're important to me because we can share any secret and know that whether or not we agree with it, it is in safe-keeping. I know that I can tell you things that I could never tell anyone else.

You're important to me because we share our hopes and dreams. When we share them, we each know that we have someone who supports us, believes in what we want and who will hope as much as we do that our dreams come true.

You are so important to me; there isn't a person in the world who could ever take your place in my life.

There is no one I'd rather laugh or cry with or share my innermost thoughts with, and there is absolutely no one I'd rather have as my sister.

I love you very much. Happy Birthday!

In loving memory of Minnie Cannashish

The following poem is dedicated to Minnie's husband George, children and grandchildren

A beloved wife, mother and grandmother
Loving friend to many
suddenly called home to be with her Saviour on August 9, 1995
her departure broke many hearts, including mine.

Though I didn't know her well
the hurt of losing a loved one I shared with you
the few times I chatted with her revealed a very humorous and
loving woman
the few times I saw her, she always had a smile and a wave of
her hand, saying hello.

The smile she had was contagious, a beautiful smile with many
words
she's now in heaven, smiling down upon you and people she
knew
her loving ways would not let you grieve too long
she would want you to pick yourselves up and go on without
her

Although you will always miss her
you must not worry for she is in good hands
the Lord called her home breaking your hearts
but God will not do things that you cannot bear

She's not really alone
she lives in you
when we look at you, we will always see a part of her
you are truly a blessed family to have had such a wonderful
woman in your lives.

Sadly missed and fondly remembered,

*Edna Neeposh
Nemaska, Que.*

In precious loving memories Lucy Crossie (Bosum) (Neeposh) Matthews

Our precious mother, it has been 20 years since you have left
us, but you leave behind your sons, daughters and grandchildren
that are part of you.

Through your grandchildren, we see you in them... And you
will remain in our hearts because you were a caring mother who
was always there for the needs of your children, especially with
that warm loving heart and Amazing Grace we used to hear you
sing. Mom, you lie in the hearts of the many and we love you.

With love, respect and precious memories...

Your sons: Abel Stewart, James, Reggie David, Norman Kenny,
Allen Roger, Leonard Gorden, David Bert & Johnathan Eric.

Your daughters: Mary Jane, Keena Martha & Jacqueline Helen.
And all your loving grandchildren.

She was born on December 28, 1938 and died in a tragic car
accident on KM 280 going towards Mistissini on Friday, August 13,
1976. She was 38 years old and was buried at the Anglican
Cemetery in Chibougamau.

*By James Neeposh
Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation*

A golden heart

God saw you getting tired
He wrapped you in his loving arms
And whispered, "Come with me"

You suffered much in silence
You faced your pain with courage
Until the very end

You tried so hard to stay with us
Your fight was all in vain
God took you to his loving home
And freed you from all pain

Never does a day go by
We don't think of you
A golden heart stopped beating
Two hard-working hands at rest

God broke our hearts
To prove to us
He only takes the best

When the days are sad and lonely
And everything goes wrong
We seem to hear you whisper,
"Cheer up and carry on"

Each time we see your picture
You appear to smile and say,
"Don't cry! I'm only sleeping,
We'll meet again someday."

In loving memory of a beloved cousin and friend, Roderick Steve Bobby Tapiatic, who died on February 27, 1995

Roderick, one year has passed since you left us to be with God.
I will always remember you as a kind, loving and caring friend
For you were always there for me.
I will never forget your warm smile.
Roderick, you left us a special gift,
Your precious daughter, Cynthia.
We have found comfort in her,
We will always take good care of her.
She reminds us so much of you.
We will love her as you had loved her
For only a very short period of time.
Roderick, although you are no longer with us
I will always remember you and keep you in my heart.

Good-bye, my beloved cousin and friend, good-bye.

*Your loving cousin
Stella Sealhunter*

I wanna wish a happy 23rd birthday to the one I love very much, Roger Matt on October 22. I hope you have a very spe-

CLASSIFIEDS

cial birthday because you deserve it. Yours truly, Mina I. Mist.

We wanna wish Eugene Hughboy happy 9th birthday on September 30. have a wonderful birthday and many more to come. With love, mom, dad, Dale, Kerri-Ann, Bertha and Benjamin.

I would like to say happy 16th birthday to my only daughter Beverly Sealhunter. Her birthday is on October 23, 1996. I will always be there for you. We love you very much. Be a good girl. From mom and dad, Kathleen and Billy in Chisasibi.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Darryl Sealhunter on November 15, 1996. We love you so much. From mom and dad, Kathleen and Billy in Chisasibi.

We would like to wish a happy 21st birthday to our daddy Samuel Dixon on Sept. 28th May your day be special as you are. Love, the boys. Your sons (Na-ma-joon) Kyle S.B. and baby Rick D.

Birthday wish going out to a very special person Samuel Dixon on Sept. 28th. Best wishes on your birthday. I love you with all my heart. Even though we may have tough times. Love Ruth S.B. XOXOX

We would like to wish a happy 8th birthday to Bruce Coonishish on Sept. 25th may your day be filled with joy and happiness. God bless you! From Jane and Joseph. PS We love you very much!

Happy 8th birthday to Bruce Coonishish on Sept. 25th and many more years to come. Have fun at your b-day party. We love you! From Ruth and Samuel, (Na-ma-joon) Kyle and Baby Rick.

Sept. 22/96 will be a special day for Brenda. It will be her 30th or 40th birthday. So Brenda, happy b-day. How many candles will you blow this year? I hope your dreams and wishes come true. Take care.

Having you for a sister means knowing there is someone to rely on, confide in and trust. It means knowing there is someone who'll share in their laughter, the tears, the memories, the dreams... but mostly having you for a sister means that

there will always be someone who is a very special friend. Happy birthday to sis Eva Icebound on Oct. 30/96. From your sisters in Ouje-Bougoumou.

Happy Birthday to Darlene SB. Oct. 15. I just wanted to do something because I was bored. That's why I'm sending this birthday greeting to you. I bet you didn't know that I knew when your birthday was. Fr. Varls.

To our special daughter Cherish Stephen. We would like to wish her a belated happy b-day on Oct. the 10th. It seems like only yesterday you were a baby and now you're off to school and there are times when you come home at 11:00 pm. We luv you; Mom and Dad.

To: Ronald Steven. We would like to wish a happy birthday which he celebrated his day on Oct. 12th/96 at Val d'Or in Chateau Louis. So did you have a good time or what?? I bet Emma paid the rounds. From Steve and Donna.

Happy birthday to a very special sweet little girl Heather Hughboy in Ouje-Bougoumou, who will be turning 3 years old on Oct. 12. You have brought a lot of happiness and joy into my life since the first time I saw you. You're a very special little girl to me. I will always love I will always be there for you. God watch over you in everything you do. With love hugs/kisses. Your Grandma, Agnes in Wemindji.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Kristy Matt on October 25, 1996. Wishing you a very happy birthday. P.S. Have a birthday party. With love, Valerie and kids in Nemaska.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my sister Jennifer Trapper on Oct. 16/96. Fr. your one and only sister Katherina. Happy 20th birthday. you are getting old. Remember to use oil of olay. Be like mom.

I would like to wish happy belated birthdays to my friends in Chisasibi: Jolene G. on Sept. 1st and Ruth A. on Aug. 31st. Hope all your wishes and dreams come true. Take care of yourselves! From your friend all the way from Waskaganish. Guess who? P.S. good luck in school, Ruth.

I would like to send out birth-

day greetings in Chisasibi. To: Abraham Angatookaluk on Nov. 6. Happy Birthday and I hope your day will be a special one. The day before your birthday is my birthday. So don't forget. From Mimi in Wask. P.S. Don't party too much, Take care! Miss ya.

102-WEDDINGS

Belated congrats to Lameboysh and Mina on their wedding. When will we see lameboysh? Fr: your buds.

We would like to congratulate a special couple, Michelle and Pat Link (JR) on their wedding day on October 26, 1996. May your love grow more and more stronger every day and for the years to come. May god bless you both. From your friend Margaret and Lillian in Quebec.

Congratulations and best wishes to my friends Olivia Shanush and Terry Visitor on their upcoming wedding on Friday, September 6, 1996. May special happiness fill this day for both of you and enjoy all life's happiest things! With love in friendship Jeannette (Wemindji) P.S. Happy birthday Olivia!

Congratulations to Betsy and Richard Lebizay who got married on July 25 in Chisasibi. Wishing you guys al the best in your new married life. P.S. Boy! Chisasibi people like to dance a lot!! I didn't even have time to party!!! Well, anyways, congratulations to the three of you. From the Golden Lady.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy anniversary going out to my loving mom Rita Wash Snowboy, her husband Adrian Snowboy on Oct. 25 Wish you both all the best in one year of living together, still more years to come mom, Adrian. Once again Happy 1st anniversary and I love you both so much. From love always Janice Wash. Chisasibi.

I would like to wish a happy 2nd anniversary to my wife Trifona T. Matt on September 16, 1996. I love you so much. May we both have love, joy and a lifetime of happiness. From your loving husband P.M. More to come. xoxoxoxoxoxox

Wishing a happy 42nd wedding anniversary to our parents Clifford and Minnie

Shasheweskum on September 8, 1996. Remembering all the times that true love can supply... And on this anniversary you're wished the very best a day that's filled with the greatest joy and years of happiness. With love from Jeannette, Sarah Lee, Howard, Bernice, Donna, Ida, Hilda, Stanley and Kenneth (Wemindji) xoxoxoxoxo

I would like to wish my husband (Ta-Ga-Nu) a happy anniversary on September 20. Always remember that I love you so much, you are my joy and happiness, you're the best thing that ever happened in my life. From your wife who loves you so so much. xoxoxoxoxo.

We would like to wish a happy 7th anniversary to Peggy and Samson Matches on September 29 in Nem. Have a long and happy life together and take care of your kids. From Edith and Gordon.

Happy 2nd anniversary to Catherine and Gillman Ottereyes on October 28, 96. And Peter and Trifona Mattawashish on September 16, 1996.

We would like to wish a happy 17th anniversary to our special parents William and Linda Moar on September 26, 1996. From Nemaska. We love you both so much and we hope the next 17 years will be as memorable as you last 17 years. Love always, Natacha, Nathan and Naaman (Nem).

Happy 16th wedding anniversary to my parents Joe and Lillian Blackned on September 22 and many more years to come. Wishing you both love and happiness. I luv you both so much and miss you a lot. Love, your daughter Maxine.

Anniversary wishes to a very special couple Robert and Mary Baribeau on September 01. As you look back upon the years and all the joys you've known, recalling precious moments that belong to you alone. This brings the best of wishes that you two will always find the days ahead still happier than those you leave behind. Happy 7th anniversary to both of you and many more to come!!! We love you both and all the kids! Love always, Eva, Stephanie and Frances. xoxoxoxo

Happy 42nd wedding anniversary to our grandparents

CLASSIFIEDS

Clifford and Minnie Shashaweskum on September 8, 1996. May this day be you brightest and your happiest in years and may the days that follow surely bring your way the many joys and pleasures you're being wished today. With all our love, your grandchildren, Sabrina, Jessie, Chantal, Diana, Roberta, Margaret, Anita, Georgina, Lizzie-Ann, Stacy, Dellana, Alexander, Marilyn, Benita, Gerald, Brendan and Bryan. xoxoxoxoxoxo

Happy 17th wedding anniversary to Hilda and Michael Swallow on August 29, 1996. Wishing you a happy 17th wedding anniversary and many more years to come. Love always, Mom and Dad Shashaweskum. (WemIndji)

I would like to wish a happy 1st anniversary to my husband Clifford Diamond on September 8, 1996. It was hard but we made it through one year. But there are still more years to come. Just remember I will always love you, richer or poorer. Love always, your wife Marcella S. Diamond.

Happy 13th anniversary to one of my favorite uncles Walter Gunner and to his funny and sexy wife Margaret on September 10. I know I'm a little late. Sorry. Just remember that I love you guys a lot and you're all special to me. Hope you had a great one. With love, Racheal Blacksmith. xox

Добрый день Ронда. 1 year! Я тебе ЛЮБЛЮ Заичику.

300-PERSONALS

SEVERAL SLED DOG HARNESES NEEDED. Old style single file leather collar for large dogs. Maul to Henry Shouse. Box 483 St. C, Goose Bay Labrador. I'll either pay your immediately or return them immediately plus your postage. Must be In'usable or repairable condition and reasonably priced. Please look around. Thank you.

Desperately looking for this lady named Sandra House. If you can call me. I think you remember my phone number in Wask. Please call me as soon as possible. From Donna M. Stephen. I even called Iris to pass this message on to you. Please call me.

I am an English born woman. I

am searching for anybody who wishes to correspond with. I am thirty years old and my love for native people and their culture is a passion I have always had. So if anybody with your permission would like to write to me I would be so happy and thankful. I long to share some historical spiritual knowledge and friendship with any Indian men that would like to teach me some culture. My address is 427 Copperfield, Chigwell, Essex, England, IG7 5NR. Thank you for your time in reading my letter. God bless you and your people. Best wishes. Morning Star.

I would like to say hi to my friends in Mistissini: Priscilla Coon, Charlotte Shecapio, Robin Trapper and Sonia. Hey girls remember me? It's me Deidre Blackned. Hope to see you girls soon.

I would like to say to my best friends in Wemindji, Leona Cheezo, Marcella Georgekish. I hope you girls still remember me. It's me. Your friend, Deidre Blackned. I miss you girls. Love friendship. I hope to see you son.

To the boy whom I love so much, JRSB. So many times I see, and I wanted to talk to you, just to know what had happened to us. But I couldn't because I was scared that you would walk away from me. But just remember that I will always love you, no matter what. From Me (RB)

I would like to say hello to friend/sister-in-law Madeleine in North Bay. Hey! Keep up the studying. Oh yeah, don't go out too much. We wish you all the best. Take care. We miss ya! Kisses and hugs from Renee, Amelia and Tyrone Dixon. xxx Write to us, Mary and Rene.

I would like to congratulate my husband for completing his treatment. I know it's hard but you're doing a good job staying sober. I'm also glad we could be a family again and have a happy home. Love always, your wife, Marcella S. Diamond

To: mi kokhane, happy anniversary. I never had a strong faith in God, but since we've been together, I thank Him every day for all the love and happiness that you fill my heart with. I hope we will share many happy years together. Ya tebe lyublyu! Bunny.xoxoxoxoxoxoxoxoxoxoxo

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3. Enter your password "internet"
4. Start-up your Netscape or Explorer and Surf the Internet to your hearts content!

This offer is limited and shall terminate without notice on December 1st, 1996. Should you require additional information please feel free to call Mr. Mike McGee, Director of Operations, Creenet Inc. at Tel: 819-978-0264, ext. 217. Please be advised that long distance charges will be the user's responsibility.

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE

2 LAKESHORE ROAD,
NEMASKA, (QUEBEC) J0Y 3B0



Job Posting

Open Position:
JUNIOR ACCOUNTING CLERK
Location of Work:
NEMASKA (EENOU ASTCHEE)
Competition Number: NEM-427

The Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec) / Cree Regional Authority is presently seeking a resourceful and highly - motivated individual to perform a range of accounting, administrative duties requiring judgement, maturity, initiative and self-confidence. This position is located at the head office in Nemaska, Quebec.

The successful candidate should have a high school diploma and strong post-secondary training in accounting; a minimum of two (2) years of experience in a similar position. The Junior Accounting Clerk will be responsible for the preparation of all manual cheques and to process the accounts receivable.

The holder of the position must be familiar with computer systems (ACCPAC); ability to speak Cree and English; knowledge of French would be an asset; ability to work well under pressure and in a remote area.

Salary for the above position will commensurate with qualifications and experience. The Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec) / Cree Regional Authority offers an excellent benefit package which includes Group Insurance Plan and Pension Plan.

If you are interested and meet the requirements for this position, please forward your resume mentioning the competition number NEM-427 by October 25, 1996 to:

**Selection Committee
Cree Regional Authority
2 Lakeshore Road
Nemaska, Quebec
J0Y 3B0**

**Tel: (819) 673-2600
Fax: (819) 673-2606**



Job Opportunity

Internal and External Posting

POSTING:	Tourism Co-ordinator
TERM:	Full-Time
SALARY:	Negotiable

The Waskaganish Band is presently seeking applications for the position of Tourism Co-Ordinator within the Economic Development Department. The Tourism Co-Ordinator will be responsible for the overall co-ordination of Tourism activities for the Waskaganish Band. This position requires the Tourism Co-Ordinator to co-ordinate and liaise with the inbound tour operators, the Waskaganish Band Council, the Kanio-Kashee Lodge and Guides.

The Major Responsibilities of the Tourism Co-Ordinator will be to plan, develop, and co-ordinate the Waskaganish Band master tourism plan with Band Members and Band Staff; manage inventory, maintain equipment and supplies, act as liaison with inbound operators, facilitate the scheduling of guide contractors and other service providers, manage the Tourism Budget, seek all available sources for funding, and co-ordinate new product development, co-ordinate, advertise, and attend trade shows for presentation of Waskaganish tour packages, manage maps, interpretive brochures and information resources, responsible for collection and dissemination of liability forms, develop and co-ordinate guide training and continuing education, and assist private entrepreneurs with the development of their tourism business; and any other duties related to the Tourism development as required by the Economic Development Manager and/or the Chief and Council.

All interested candidates who possess the knowledge and skills may apply at the Waskaganish Band.

Submit your application to:

Virginia Moses
Office & Personnel Manager
Waskaganish First Nation
P.O. Box 60
Waskaganish, Quebec
J0M 1R0

Deadline for applications: November 8, 1996



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